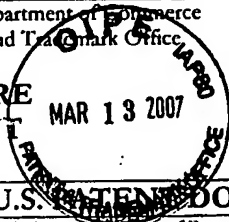


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Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1449/PTO		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Application No. : 10/796,579	
				Filing Date : March 9, 2004	
				First Named Inventor : Y. YAMANAKA	
				Group Art Unit :	
				Examiner Name :	
				Attorney Docket No. : NECG 21.055	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
8		6,181,657		KURODA ET AL.	01-30-2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
8		11-86310		JP	SONY CORP	03-30-1999	*, **
		2002-288859		JP	TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC CO	10-04-2002	*, **
		9-17029		JP	PIONEER ELECTRONIC CORP	01-17-1997	*, **, ***
		2001-67689		JP	VICTOR COMPANY OF JAPAN	03-16-2001	***

**\*Mentioned in the Japanese Office Action mailed January 31, 2007, from corresponding Japanese Application 2004-024519.**

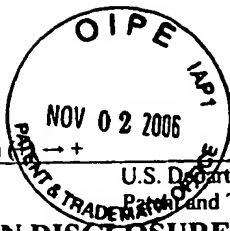
**\*\* English Abstract and/or translation attached**

**\*\*\* Corresponds to U.S. Patent 6,181,657**

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
		<del>Japanese Office Action mailed January 31, 2007, from corresponding Japanese Application 2004-024519.</del>	X (Partial)

Examiner Signature	Pato	Date Considered	4/9/07
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1<sup>6</sup> if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take .2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. : 10/796,579

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Group Art Unit :

Examiner Name :

Attorney Docket No. : NECG 21.055

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		5,978,332		ITAKURA ET AL.	11-02-1999	*
		6,157,600		NAKAMURA ET AL.	12-05-2000	*
		2002/0039338		KADOWAKI ET AL.	04-04-2002	*

**FOREIGN DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		1 031 970	EP	HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY	08-30-2000	*
		0 886 266	EP	SONY CORPORATION ET AL.	12-23-1998	*
		1 213 712	EP	PIONEER CORPORATION	06-12-2002	*
		0 944 048	EP	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.	09-22-1999	*

**\*European Search Report dated September 29, 2006, from corresponding European Application Number 04090096.1-2210**

**Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
		European Search Report dated September 29, 2006, from corresponding European Application Number 04090096.1-2210	
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